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Letter dated 18 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

As a follow-up to Security Council resolution 1353 (2001) on strengthening cooperation with troop-contributing countries, I have the honour to propose a few practical measures.

The first concerns meetings prior to review or renewal of a mandate. The meetings prior to review or renewal of a mandate are of crucial importance to troop-contributing countries. A draft resolution on review or renewal of a mandate should be shared with troop-contributing countries as soon as it is introduced in the Council. The Council should then hold meetings with the troop-contributing countries, with the participation of the Secretariat.

The report of the Secretary-General must be made available at least a week before expiry of a mandate. Any further update could be provided by the Secretariat separately, in writing or through oral briefing. This would allow the meetings to be convened sufficiently in advance, allowing substantive participation by troop-contributing countries.

The second concerns periodic meetings with troop-contributing countries. Resolution 1353 (2001) provides for meetings with troop-contributing countries at different stages of peacekeeping operations. Under the existing practice, meetings are usually held by the Secretariat with troop-contributing countries in case of serious developments or to meet a visiting special representative of the Secretary-General or Force Commander, as may be considered necessary. The Council usually holds meetings with troop-contributing countries prior to renewal or revision of a mandate or closure of a mission, while the public/private meetings of the Council provide additional occasions for the expression of views.

In our view, instead of scheduling meetings only as a calendar event a few days prior to renewal of a mandate, the Council should, when the situation on the ground so requires, hold periodic meetings with troop-contributing countries, with the participation of the Secretariat. The special representative of the Secretary-General and/or Force Commander of the mission concerned might be invited to such periodic review meetings.

In order to make those meetings more substantive and more useful, the agendas might be circulated well in advance, preferably one week ahead, allowing

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for necessary preparation. The President of the Council could forward a substantive background note, with an indicative list of issues to be addressed.

The periodic meetings would be in addition to those held prior to review or renewal of a mandate and would be arranged for review of the situation, assessment of the progress in achieving mission objectives, addressing any difficulties faced by the mission and considering any concern of troop-contribution countries. A possible schedule of such review meetings with troop-contribution countries is given in the annex to this letter.

Such meetings would allow the views of troop-contributing countries to be reflected in the implementation of a mandate, operational management and Council decisions. In order to ensure that, the outcome of the meetings in both instances should be made available in writing to Council members for consideration at the consultations of the whole.

Finally, regarding implementation of resolution 1353 (2001), in arranging meetings with troop-contributing countries, attention should be given, by both the Council and the Secretariat, to the implementation of the relevant provisions of resolution 1353 (2001).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Anwarul Karim **Chowdhury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 18 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Indicative schedule of possible periodic review meetings with troop-contributing countries

United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) (resolution 1344/2001) review/renewal	15 September 2001
Periodic review meeting with troop-contribution countries	August 2001
United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) (resolution 1346/2001) review/renewal	30 September 2001
Periodic review meeting with troop-contribution countries	August 2001
United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) (S/2001/328)	6 October 2001
Periodic review meeting with troop-contribution countries	September 2001
United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) (resolution 1359/2001)	30 November 2001
Periodic review meeting with troop-contribution countries	October 2001
United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (resolution 1351/2001)	30 November 2001
Periodic review meeting with troop-contribution countries	October 2001
United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) (resolution 1354/2001)	15 December 2001
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	September 2001, November 2001
United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) (resolution 1362/2001)	15 January 2002
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	September 2001, December 2001
United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) (resolution 1338/2001)	31 January 2002
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	September 2001, December 2001, January 2002
United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) (resolution 1364/2001)	31 January 2002
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	October 2001, December 2001, January 2002

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) (resolution 1365/2001)	31 January 2002
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	October 2001, December 2001, January 2002
United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) (resolution 1355/2001)	18 June 2002
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	September 2001, December 2001, March 2002, June 2002
United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) (resolution 1357/2001)	21 June 2002
Periodic review meetings with troop-contribution countries	September 2001, December 2001, March 2002, June 2002